Orientals in the U.S.

Statistics Relative To Japanese Immigration And The Japanese in California.

Japanese Association of America
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I

JAPANESE ARRIVALS TO AND DEPARTURES FROM CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES

(OFFICIAL FIGURES OF COMMISSIONER GENERAL OF IMMIGRATION)

Year	Arrivals	Departures
1908	9,544	4,796
1909	2,432	5,004
1910	2,598	5,024
1911	4,285	5,869
1912	5,358	5,437
1913	6,771	5,647
1914	8,462	6,300
1915	9,029	5,967
1916	9,100	6,922
1917	9,150	6,581
1918	11,143	7,191

Note: The decline of figures in 1909 is the result of the working of the "gentlemen's agreement." The "gentlemen's agreement" admits (1) former residents of the United States. (2) parents, wives, and children of residents, and (3) settled agriculturists. . This is, of course, in addition to non-laboring Japanese, such as diplomats, merchants, financiers, students, etc., who are free to come.

Increase of Japanese arrivals in the past several years is due to these facts:

(1) Due to the war Japanese officials, business men, etc., going to Europe, have passed through the United States. The figures for such Japanese must be twice the actual number, because they are counted once at Pacific ports upon arrival of those Japanese from Japan, and counted again at Atlantic ports upon their return there from Europe.

(2) The war obliged Japanese students, who would have gone to Europe in normal times, to come to the United States.

(3) The enormous increase of American Japanese trade by the war caused many Japanese firms to send agents to America and to establish branch offices and agencies in San Francisco, Seattle, New York, and other leading American cities. Many of the office forces brought their families with them. These naturally increased Japanese arrivals.

In 1914 Japan imported from America $54,000,000 worth of commodities. In 1918 this increased to $275,000,000. In other words, Japanese purchases from America increased more than five-fold in five years. In the same period Japanese exports to America increased three times.

II

JAPANESE ARRIVALS CLASSIFIED INTO LABORERS AND NON-LABORERS

(OFFICIAL FIGURES OF COMMISSIONER GENERAL OF IMMIGRATION)

Year	Laborers	Non-Laborers
1909	675	1,757
1910	589	1,909
1911	726	3,556
1912	894	4,464
1913	1,371	5,400
1914	1,762	6,700
1915	2,214	6,815
1916	2,958	6,142
1917	2,838	6,321
1918	2,604	8,539

Note: The "gentlemen's agreement" prohibits the admission of "new" laborers from Japan, but admits Japanese of the following three classes, whether laborer or non-laborer: (1) Former residents, who return to America within 18 months following their departure from America. (2) Parents, wives and children of Japanese residing in America. (3) Japanese who have settled in America as agriculturists.

The Japanese Government, of course, makes it a rule not to issue passports to laborers other than those coming under the above classification. But it is sometimes difficult to distinguish a laborer from a non-laborer. The Japanese Government may issue a passport to a Japanese whom it believes, upon inquiry, to be a non-laborer, but in the judgment of the American immigration authorities, this same Japanese may be regarded as a laborer. Such cases are quite conceivable.

Many laborers in this table have departed for Japan, but figures for departing laborers are not obtainable, because the reports of the Commissioner General of Immigration do not classify departures into laborers and non-laborers.

III

JAPANESE ARRIVALS TO CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES CLASSIFIED INTO MALES AND FEMALES

(REPORTS OF COMMISSIONER GENERAL OF IMMIGRATION)

Year	Males	Females	Total
1909	1,777	867	2,644
1910	1,648	1,039	2,687
1911	2,377	1,905	4,282
1912	2,930	2,428	5,358
1913	4,012	2,759	6,771
1914	5,034	3,428	8,462
1915	5,542	3,487	9,029
1916	5,869	3,231	9,100
1917	5,833	3,326	9,159
1918	7,100	4,043	11,143

Note: The above figures include minors.

It is difficult to ascertain how many of these women are so-called "picture brides." In the next table (Table IV) figures are given for the "picture brides" who have entered the United States through the port of San Francisco. Figures for other ports are not obtainable.

The majority of these women are wives who married before their husbands left Japan to this country, and who, therefore, are not "picture brides."

IV

JAPANESE WIVES (SO-CALLED PICTURE BRIDES) ARRIVING PORT OF SAN FRANCISCO

(COMPILED BY JAPANESE ASSOCIATION FROM THE RECORD OF THE SAN FRANCISCO IMMIGRATION OFFICE)

Year	Number
1912	879
1913	625
1914	768
1915	823
1916	486
1917	504
1918	520
1919	465 668
Total	5,070 5,273

Note: When a man living in America desires to marry, but is prevented by various reasons to go home, he writes to his parents and asks them to find a suitable woman for his bride. The parents, following the usual customs and rules, fix on an eligible person. Then they intimate to the girl's parents that they are desirous of securing her marriage to their son in America. The parents on either side spare no pains in inquiring into the character, social standing, family relations, genealogy, health and education of the young man and woman. If this investigation proves satisfactory, both to the parents and to the prospective groom and bride, the man in America sends his photograph to the woman, and receives her photograph in exchange. This "interview" through photographs proving satisfactory to both parties, the nuptial knot is tied at a ceremonial dinner in which the groom, living in America, is naturally absent, but which is attended by the bride and the parents and relatives of both sides. This done, the parents register the marriage with the proper authorities. This marriage has been regarded as valid both by the Japanese and American Governments. This practice is to be abolished after February 25, 1920.

V

TOTAL JAPANESE POPULATION IN CALIFORNIA

(FIGURES OBTAINED SEPTEMBER, 1918, BY JAPANESE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA)

Men	41,842
Women	12,232
Boys	7,877
Girls	7,031
Total	68,982

VI

FARMING JAPANESE POPULATION OF CALIFORNIA

(FIGURES OBTAINED SEPTEMBER, 1918, BY THE JAPANESE AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA)

Farmers	7,973
Farmers' wives	4,560
Farmers' boys under 16 years	3,396
Farmers' girls under 16 years	3,114
Farm Hands	15,794
Farm Hands' wives	1,663
Farm Hands' boys under 16 years	771
Farm Hands' girls under 16 years	737
Total	38,008

Note: Japanese farm hands are paid $4.50 to $5.00 per day without board. White farm laborers work for $3.50 to $4.00 per day. This is one of the reasons why Japanese farmers, especially rice farmers, prefer white help to Japanese.

Both Japanese and white farm hands eat the same food at the same table.

Japanese farmers deal with local American banks and not with Japanese banks in San Francisco.

LAND CULTIVATED BY JAPANESE IN CALIFORNIA

(FIGURES OBTAINED BY THE JAPANESE AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION AT THE END OF 1918)

	No. of Farms	Acreage
Owned	527	29,105
Leased	5,936	336,721
Total	6,463	365,826

Note: In addition to this, there are a number of American corporations in which Japanese farmers have minor interests. The area cultivated by such corporations is estimated at about 13,000 acres, mostly rice fields and vineyards.

In most cases the Japanese take up lands avoided by white farmers as worthless or unprofitable. When the Japanese, by dint of their industry, intelligence, and efficiency, prove the worth of such lands the value and price of adjoining lands increases phenomenally. This has been the case at Livingston, Fresno, Florin and in Butte County.

FARMING SPECIALIZED BY JAPANESE

(COMPILED BY JAPANESE AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION AT THE END OF 1918)

Product	Acreage by Japanese	Total Acreage by All	Per Cent of Japanese to Total Acreage
Berries	5,968	6,500	91.8
Celery	3,568	4,000	89.2
Asparagus	9,927	12,000	82.7
Seeds	15,847	20,000	79.2
Onions	9,251	12,112	76.3
Tomatoes	10,616	16,000	66.3
Cantaloupes	9,581	15,000	63.8
Sugar Beets	51,604	102,949	50.1
Green Vegetables	17,852	75,000	23.8
Potatoes	18,830	90,175	20.8
Hops	1,260	8,000	15.7
Grapes	47,439	360,000	13.1
Beans	77,107	592,000	13.
Rice	16,640	106,220	16
Cotton	18,000	179,860	10.
Corn	7,845	85,000	9.2
Fruits and Nuts	29,210	715,000	4.
Hay and Grain	15,753	2,200,000	0.

Note: Figures for acreage cultivated by Japanese are obtained by the Japanese Agricultural Association of California. Figures for total acreage are obtained from the official reports of the State Board of Agriculture and of the California Development Board.

This table shows the fields specialized by Japanese farmers. They have taken up the kind of farming shunned by white farmers, such as berry, celery and asparagus cultures which requires stooping posture on the part of the workers. The Japanese, being comparatively short in stature, are particularly adapted to such farming.

The percentage of Japanese acreage is very small in such farming as grain, hay, corn, fruit, and nut culture, which does not require hard manual labor. In such fields white farmers are predominant.

The table shows that the Japanese farmers do not compete with the white farmers. The Japanese simply filled the gap created by the unwillingness of the other farmers to engage themselves in certain kinds of farming.

IX

NON-FARMING JAPANESE POPULATION IN CALIFORNIA

(FIGURES OBTAINED SEPTEMBER, 1918, BY THE JAPANESE ASSOCIATION)

Men	18,075
Women	6,006
Boys	3,710
Girls	3,180
Total	30,971

X

JAPANESE BIRTHS AND DEATHS IN CALIFORNIA

(OFFICIAL FIGURES OF STATE BOARD OF HEALTH)

Year	Births	Deaths
1908	455	431
1909	682	450
1910	719	440
1911	995	472
1912	1,467	524
1913	2,215	613
1914	2,874	628
1915	3,342	663
1916	3,721	729
1917	4,108	910
Total	20,578	5,860

Note: This rate of increase in Japanese births is abnormal, and will soon decline. The sudden increase in 1912 is due to the fact that about that time Japanese men in California began to marry. Since then a majority of men who intended to marry, have married. Consequently in a few years the rate of increase in Japanese births from year to year will begin to decline. This point must be borne in mind in examining this and the following tables.

It is estimated by the Japanese Association of America that from 1908 to 1917 Japanese wives in California, including "picture brides," increased at a yearly average of 1,000, while the average yearly increase of Japanese births in the same period was 465. This shows that even at present the tendency is for decrease of births. According to the same estimate, the average age of Japanese adults is above 40. Within a few years, therefore, Japanese births will show marked decrease.

XI

PERCENTAGE OF JAPANESE BIRTHS TO THE TOTAL BIRTHS IN CALIFORNIA AS COMPARED WITH THAT OF WHITE BIRTHS

(OFFICIAL FIGURES OF STATE BOARD OF HEALTH)

Year	Percentage of Japanese Births to Total Births	Percentage of White Births to Total Births
1908	1.6	96.8
1909	2.2	96.3
1910	2.2	96.1
1911	2.9	96.5
1912	3.7	94.6
1913	5.5	93.2
1914	6.2	91.9
1915	6.9	91.3
1916	7.3	91.4
1917	7.8	90.6

XII

JAPANESE BIRTHS COMPARED WITH WHITE BIRTHS IN CALIFORNIA

(OFFICIAL FIGURES OF STATE BOARD OF HEALTH)

Year	Total Births Including All Races	White Births	Japanese Births
1908	28,077	27,190	455
1909	30,882	29,736	682
1910	32,138	30,893	719
1911	34,426	33,245	995
1912	39,330	37,194	1,467
1913	43,852	40,864	2,215
1914	46,012	42,281	2,874
1915	48,075	43,874	3,342
1916	50,638	46,272	3,721
1917	52,230	47,314	4,108

XIII

JAPANESE BIRTHS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY AND CITY

(OFFICIAL FIGURES OF STATE BOARD OF HEALTH)

Year	Japanese Births	Other Births
1908	114	6,182
1909	164	6,426
1910	175	7,322
1911	231	7,994
1912	355	9,852
1913	532	11,207
1914	717	11,398
1915	935	10,912
1916	1,146	11,010
1917	1,265	11,249

XIV

JAPANESE BIRTHS IN EIGHT COUNTIES OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (INCLUDING LOS ANGELES COUNTY)

(OFFICIAL FIGURES OF STATE BOARD OF HEALTH)

Year	Japanese Births	White Births
1908	144	9,028
1909	201	9,518
1910	216	10,659
1911	302	11,841
1912	443	14,516
1913	683	16,769
1914	955	17,474
1915	1,231	18,014
1916	1,492	18,759
1917	1,642	19,182

XV

AMOUNTS CONTRIBUTED TO U. S. WAR LOANS BY JAPANESE IN CALIFORNIA

(APPROXIMATE ESTIMATE BY THE JAPANESE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA)

First Loan	$ 250,000
Second Loan	280,000
Third Loan	838,800
Fourth Loan	750,000
Fifth Loan	530,000
Total	$2,648,800

Note: A very large percentage of Japanese in California have joined the American Red Cross, although figures of such Japanese are not obtainable. In Contra Costa County, for example, it is said that almost all Japanese families have become members of the Red Cross.